

BOOKMOBILE BRANCH LIBRARY

1080 W. University Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55104

At a Glance: 2006

Built-Remodeled	Purchased 2005
Square Ft	272
Hours/week	N/A
Days/open/week	Five
Materials Budget	\$38,343
Collection Size	21,734
Books:	
Adult	6,866
Juvenile	12,303
Total Circulation	89,076
Adult	34,562 (39%)
Juvenile	54,514 (61%)
Circulation/FTE	25,450
Total Information	9,386
Information/Ref FTE	3,129
In-House Materials Use	N/A
FTEs Public Service	3.5
Gate Count	22,275

Computer Workstations (Public): 0

Lounge chairs: 0; Study tables: 0; Study carrels: 0

SERVICE PROFILE:

The Bookmobile is an arm of the library's Outreach Division. Its purpose is to bring library services to communities that face barriers in using fixed library facilities, and to raise awareness and appreciation of the Saint Paul Public Library among all residents of the city. Bookmobile patrons are able to take advantage of most of the services offered by traditional libraries including library card registrations; loans of books and magazines, VHS tapes and DVDs, audio books, and Passport to Play cards; and inter-library loans.

The Bookmobile schedule is revised twice a year and is coordinated with the school year. There are currently 39 regular stops on the biweekly schedule. These are focused on senior and low-income high rise units, public housing developments, schools, and neighborhoods that do not have a convenient fixed library facility. About half of the Bookmobile's scheduled stops are residential sites managed by the St. Paul Public Housing Agency or the Wilder Foundation.

Other site collaborators include Afton View Apartments, Twin Cities Housing Development

Corporation, Sibley Manor, Merrick Community Services, Mississippi Market Co-op, St Paul Parks and Recreation, St. Paul Public Schools, and several churches that allow use of their parking facilities.

In addition to the published regularly scheduled stops, the Bookmobile visits up to a dozen schools every two weeks. These stops include elementary schools, middle schools, charter schools, summer programs, and after-school programs. School stops are essential for providing young people with library cards and introducing them to the library system. They serve a high percentage of students who face barriers in using a traditional library.

The Bookmobile also participates in community festivals and parades. These appearances generate interest in the library and Bookmobile services and foster a feeling of inclusion in the communities we serve.

Because of practical considerations, the library cannot directly serve residents of many care centers and nursing home facilities. Bookmobile staff members organize quarterly deposit collections of large print material for these sites.